Welcome MSW Field Students

Congratulations

Field Education: Part I
Field Education Team for your Graduate Program

Robert Terry  rpterry@uakron.edu  |  Wayne
Becky Thomas  bthomas@uakron.edu  |  Lakewood
  |  Akron
Naomi White  naomi1@uakron.edu  |  Akron

Timothy McCarragher, Ph.D., LISW-S  |  School Director  |  Associate Professor

The University of Akron – College of Health Professions
Social Work Discipline
Signature Pedagogy is Field Education
Signature Pedagogy

Represents the central form of instruction and learning in which a profession socializes its students to perform the role of practitioner.
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The foundation of these three (3) professions:

1. Medicine
2. Law
3. Education
Signature Pedagogy

represents the central form of instruction and learning in which a profession socializes its students to perform the role of practitioner.

What behavior informs you that these professions incorporate a signature pedagogy in preparing their learners?

1. Residency
2. Moot Court
3. Student teaching assignment /internship
Signature Pedagogy

Theoretical & conceptual contributions

“real world” experiences
Signature Pedagogy

Theoretical & conceptual contributions = “real world” experiences
Field Education Structure

[Image of post-it notes with various items such as "Experiences," "Role," "Supervision," and "Learning." The notes appear to outline expectations for a field education structure.]
Field Education Structure

- Two consecutive semesters
- Foundation students - 200 hours per semester - 16 hours per week
- Concentration students - 250 hours per semester - 17 hours per week
- 3 credit hours per semester for field education
- Grade structure - Pass or Fail
  | Credit or No Credit
  - No Credit or Fail = repeat field education
- 1 min hour of weekly supervision with field instructor
- 1 Required visit by Faculty Field Liaison per semester
Field Education Structure

☐ Two consecutive semesters
  - Fall semester field begins 2 weeks into semester

☐ Foundation - Full-time Learner
  - 1st year - 1st placement

☐ Foundation – Part-time Learner
  - 2nd year – 1st placement
Field Education Structure

✓ Two consecutive semesters
  ▪ Fall semester field begins the week the semester begins

✓ Concentration - Full-time Learner
  ▪ 2nd year – 2nd placement

✓ Concentration – Part-time Learner
  ▪ 4th year – 2nd placement

✓ Concentration – Advanced Standing
  ▪ 1 year program- 1 field placement only
Field Education Way

- Designed
- Supervised
- Coordinated
- Evaluated

based on criteria by which students demonstrate achievement of program competencies.

*(the ability to do something successfully & efficiently)*

- Engage
- Assess
- Intervene
- Evaluate
Micro | Macro

The University of Akron – College of Health Professions
Micro | Macro | Competencies

- **Client system** - individual, family, small group – problems solving | case-based research
- **Client system** - organizations, neighborhoods, community development, administration, policy development | implementation, program research

- Ability to **Engage**
- Ability to **Assess**
- Ability to **Intervene**
- Ability to **Evaluate**
Field Placement at my current workplace | FAPE

- Required completion of a proposal
- Field Instructor separate person from Employment Supervisor
- Separate hours for Field Placement & Employment
- Field Instructor = MSW\MSSA + 2 years of post-graduate experience + 1 year with employment organization
- All field rules apply
Field Education Terminology

- **Field a.k.a. Field Placement | Practicum | Internship | Clinical**
- **Field Coordinator & Field Contacts - University-based**
- **Field Instructor a.k.a. Field Supervisor – Agency-based**
- **Faculty Field Liaison – University-based**
Target Audience

- Aging/Gerontology
- Alcohol, Drug, or Substance Abuse
- Child Welfare
- Community Planning
- Criminal | Juvenile Justice & Corrections
- Developmental Disabilities
- Domestic Violence | Crisis Intervention
- Family Services
- Group Services

Target Population

- Health | Community Health | Hospice
- Housing Services
- International
- Mental Health | Community Health
- Occupational
- Rehabilitation
- School Social Work
Specialty Practice Sections|
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

- Health
- Aging
- Alcohol, Tobacco, & Other drugs
- Children, Adolescents, & Young Adults
- Child Welfare
- Mental Health
- School Social Work
- Social & Economic Justice & Peace
Field Agency Sites

- Community Mental Health
- Medical Centers | Hospitals | Clinics
- Residential Treatment Facilities
- Group Homes
- Recovery Centers
- Battered Women’s Shelters
- Animal Sanctuary
- Geriatric facilities
- Schools

- Police Departments | Youth Services
- Community Centers
- Social Services Agencies
- Crisis Intervention
- Child Welfare
- Worksite
- Juvenile Justice
Securing your field placement
Field education procedure | processes

1. Become familiar with field section of social work website
2. Review Field Placement Schedule—due dates and documents
3. Note due date to have a field placement secured prior to start of semester
Field education procedure | processes

1. Locate Agency Roster on website

2. Peruse agencies reflecting on:
   * Practice areas; knowledge of self; capture the kind of experience I want to have to demonstrate mastery in competencies

3. Return to agency roster & begin to search via Agency Roster
Interview questions/statements

1. How can I (the learner) assist your agency in achieving its mission statement?
2. Please describe specific opportunities I will have as an intern to develop four core areas: Engage, Assess, Intervene, and Evaluate
3. The School of Social Work requires a minimum of one hour of weekly supervision, is this feasible at this organization?
4. Please describe your “ideal” MSW ____ intern ( ____ = insert if you are a foundation student, concentration student, advanced standing concentration student).
Email 1st & Phone contact 2nd
Good morning|afternoon|evening Ms. Pitts,

My name is Sam Super. I am a graduate student at The University of Akron School of Social Work. I begin my field education experience ____________ (identify which semester and year you will begin your field education experience, i.e., Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Summer 2018, Fall 2018).

I am interested in scheduling an interview with your or the designated representative for your organization to discuss the possibility of securing a field placement (internship) with your organization. I am required to spend _____ hours per week in my field placement with a total of _______ per semester (insert applicable information: 16 hours per week /200 hours for foundation students per semester or 17 hours per week /250 hours per semester for concentration students). I look forward to an opportunity to discuss in more depth the alignment of my background and interests with the mission of your organization. I look forward to meeting you and learning more about the role and impact of your organization on our families and communities.

Sincerely,
Sam Super,
UA School of Social Work Graduate Student
• Check organization’s website to ensure familiarity with mission statement and programs offered by the agency you are interested, prior to your scheduled interview.

• Check your voice message on your cell and home phone...confirm the professional tone. *Would your great-grandmother think the tone, the music, the words were respectable?*

• Identify your “interview wardrobe”—simplicity is safe. Take a look at yourself in the mirror—minimize any distractions—*What could be a potential distraction?*
- Be prepared to smile – You are sooooo close to achieving your dream...your goal.
- Think about all you have achieved to get to this moment and be prepared to give the interviewer a reason to think they should place you in a toothpaste commercial (smile).
You are unknown... for now!
Social Media

Check all social media accounts and confirm your account reflects the image that would encourage an organization to invest in your growth and development.
It is time to breathe!

- Go forth – with **Courage**
- Interact - with **Compassion**
- Interview - with **Competence** as you demonstrate what you know about the organization, target population, and your school’s field expectations.
Questions
Thank you for choosing us!